

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 13, 2007

The Honorable George W. Bush
President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Bush:

We are writing to express our deep disappointment regarding the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services' (USCIS) announced final fee structure that will take effect on immigration applications filed on or after July 30, 2007. These fee increases place an unrealistic burden on families who want to follow the law, adjust their status and become full-fledge citizens and will hinder the integration of immigrants into American society. We urge you to reconsider this final fee structure and take steps to encourage, rather than hinder, the naturalization of legal immigrants.

The integration of all immigrants into American society is at the center of all immigration proposals in Congress, including the compromise struck between your administration and the U.S. Senate. For the majority of immigrants, becoming a U. S. citizen is the culmination of many years of hard work and is a critical step toward integration into American Society. It is unfortunate that, despite receiving more than 3,900 public comments, the USCIS has decided to significantly increase the fees for necessary immigration services. This includes increasing fees for the naturalization process from \$400 to \$675, an increase of more than 50 percent. This increase could deny many of the eight million legal permanent residents the ability to become citizens, further hindering integration of immigrants into American society.

At a time when comprehensive immigration reform is such a pressing issue facing our nation, increasing the fees for immigrants who are following the law and want to integrate into American society is unwarranted. We urge you to reconsider this final fee structure and work with Congress to create a fairer system that provides legal immigrants with an affordable and reasonable path to citizenship.

Sincerely,





Edward L. Berman

Jim Moran

Chake Fattah

Barbara Lee

Ciro D. Padryz

Ed Pastor

Scott Ryan

Danny K. Davis

Eric Delahunt

William J. Randall

Mark A. Gysler

Jim Langerin

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